

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as shown in the following listing of claims:

1. **(currently amended)** A one-piece litter box for an animal comprising, in combination:

a rectangular container having a base wall with sidewalls extending vertically upward from edges of the base wall to form a rectangular-shaped hollow interior space;

wherein a top opening is formed by upper edges of the sidewalls;

wherein an entrance opening is formed in one of the sidewalls;

wherein the entrance opening is circular and has a diameter in the range of about eight inches to about ten inches;

wherein the entrance opening is sized and positioned to permit passage of the animal through the entrance opening but substantially avoid escape of urine, feces and litter through the entrance opening;

wherein the entrance opening is spaced below the top opening of the container and spaced at least six inches above the base wall of the container;

wherein the entrance opening is spaced above a bottom of the container a distance equal to at least forty percent of the height of the container;

wherein the entrance opening is laterally centered on the sidewall in which the entrance opening is formed;

wherein the sidewalls are free of any openings other than the entrance opening;

wherein the entrance opening is free of coverings so that the animal can see through the entrance opening;

wherein the sidewalls form a height of the container which substantially prevents the animal from seeing over the sidewalls while standing within the hollow interior space; and

whereby wherein the animal enters the container through the entrance opening, turns and faces the entrance opening while within the hollow interior space to see out of the container through the entrance opening and thereby substantially avoid escape of urine, feces and litter through the entrance opening while the animal is within the container, and exits the container through one of the entrance opening and the top opening.

2. **(original)** The litter box according to claim 1, wherein each of the sidewalls are continuous except for the entrance opening.

3. **(currently amended)** The litter box according to claim 1, wherein the height of the container is ~~at least~~ about fifteen inches.

4. **(cancelled)**

5. **(cancelled)**

6. **(cancelled)**

7. **(cancelled)**

8. **(cancelled)**

9. **(cancelled)**

10. **(original)** The litter box according to claim 1, wherein the top opening is entirely open and free of any covering.

11. **(original)** The litter box according to claim 1, wherein the container is molded of an opaque plastic material.

12. **(original)** The litter box according to claim 1, wherein the container is molded of a plastic material including an antimicrobial material.

13. **(original)** The litter box according to claim 1, wherein the upper edges of the sidewalls form a lip having a round upward-facing surface.

14. **(original)** The litter box according to claim 1, wherein the upper edges of the sidewalls form a lip having a width of no more than one-half inch.

15. **(currently amended)** A one-piece litter box comprising, in combination:  
a rectangular container having a base wall with sidewalls extending vertically upward from edges of the base wall to form a rectangular-shaped hollow interior space;  
wherein a top opening is formed by upper edges of the sidewalls;  
wherein an entrance opening is formed in one of the sidewalls;  
wherein the sidewalls form a height of the container which is at least about fifteen inches;  
wherein the entrance opening is sized and positioned to permit passage of the animal through the entrance opening but substantially avoid escape of urine, feces and litter through the entrance opening;  
wherein the entrance opening is spaced below the top opening and is spaced at least six inches above the base wall of the container;  
wherein the entrance opening is circular and has a diameter in the range of about eight inches to about ten inches;  
wherein the entrance opening is laterally centered on the sidewall in which the entrance opening is formed;  
wherein the sidewalls are free of any openings other than the entrance opening;  
wherein the entrance opening is free of coverings so that the animal can see through the entrance opening while within the hollow interior space; and  
wherein the sidewalls form a height of the container which substantially prevents the animal from seeing over the sidewalls while standing within the hollow interior space;  
whereby wherein the animal enters the container through the entrance opening, turns and faces the entrance opening while within the hollow interior space to see out of the container through the entrance opening and thereby substantially avoid escape of urine, feces and litter through the entrance opening when the animal is within the container, and exits the container through one of the entrance opening and the top opening.

16. **(original)** The litter box according to claim 15, wherein each of the sidewalls are continuous except for the entrance opening.

17. **(original)** The litter box according to claim 15, wherein the entrance opening is

spaced above a bottom of the container a distance equal to at least forty percent of the height of the container.

18. **(original)** The litter box according to claim 15, wherein the top opening is entirely open and free of any covering.

19. **(original)** The litter box according to claim 15, wherein the container is molded of an opaque plastic material.

20. **(original)** The litter box according to claim 15, wherein the container is molded of a plastic material including an antimicrobial material.

21. **(previously presented)** The litter box according to claim 1, wherein an interior surface of the container is seamless, interfaces between the sidewalls are each rounded, and interfaces between the base wall and the sidewalls are each rounded.

22. **(currently amended)** The litter box according to claim 21, wherein ~~litter~~ litter is placed directly onto the base wall.

23. **(previously presented)** The litter box according to claim 15, wherein an interior surface of the container is seamless, interfaces between the sidewalls are each rounded, and interfaces between the base wall and the sidewalls are each rounded.

24. **(currently amended)** The litter box according to claim 23, wherein ~~litter~~ litter is placed directly onto the base wall.

25. **(new)** The litter box according to claim 1, wherein two of the side walls have a longer width than the other two of the side walls and the entrance opening is laterally centered on one of the sidewalls having the longer width.

26. **(new)** The litter box according to claim 15, wherein two of the side walls have a

longer width than the other two of the side walls and the entrance opening is laterally centered on one of the sidewalls having the longer width.